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## Landmark Report (Vol. 15, no. 2)

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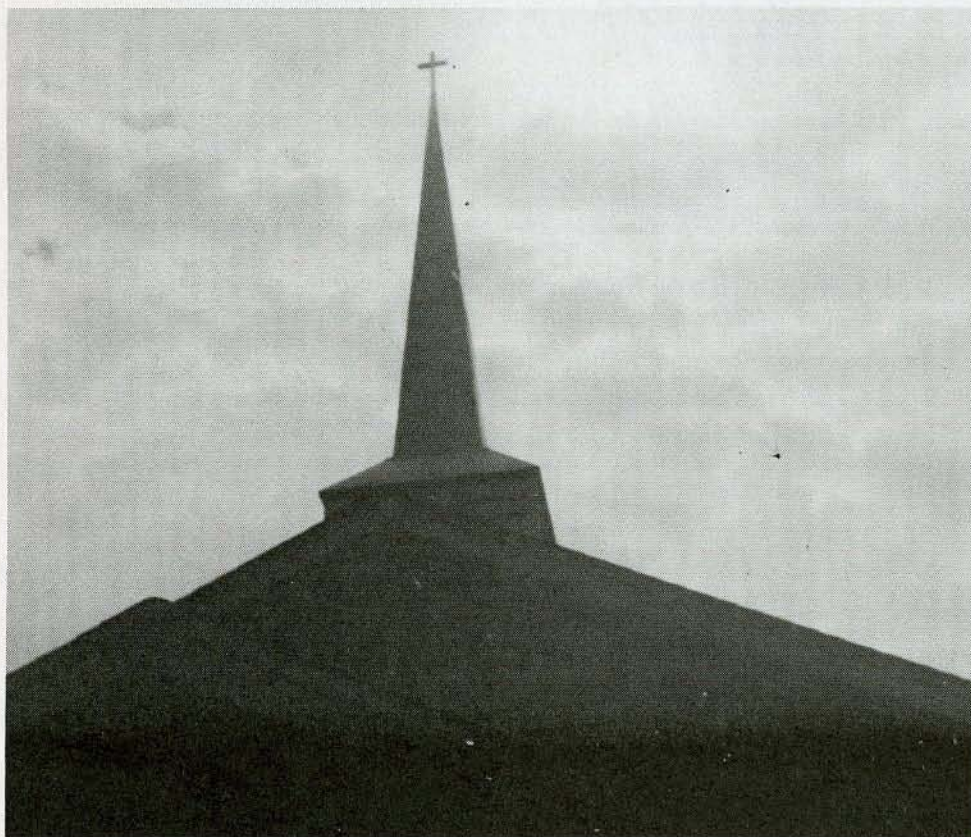
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## REVIEW OF A LANDMARK YEAR

### LANDMARK 1994-1995 ANNALS



► LANDMARK HAS  
BEGUN A SURVEY OF  
WARREN COUNTY'S  
RURAL CHURCHES.  
SEE STORY INSIDE.

These annals were delivered by President Jonathan Jeffrey at Landmark's annual meeting on June 1. Landmark has experienced another successful year. In August, we finished our survey of Warren County's sculpture as part of the national initiative Save Outdoor Sculpture, receiving very favorable

media coverage. In late summer, you may have also seen our public service announcements produced by TKR Cable featuring information about homes in the Upper East Main Historic District. The spots featured the voice of our own past president Rick Dubose and were written by Laura Harper Lee and Jean Thomason.

In September, we held our fall general membership meeting at the Kentucky Building with Michael Moore of Bradford Interiors speaking on historic interiors. In October, our third major publication, *Riverview: Savoring the Past*, was published. In November, we purchased and presented to Operation PRIDE the original clock from the L&N Depot to be placed in the depot upon its restoration. In December, Matt Baker was kind enough to host our Christmas Open House, our best attended ever. Also, in December, First Baptist Church moved into their new home; its not the White Temple, but it shows a congregation's sensitivity to its previous house of worship.



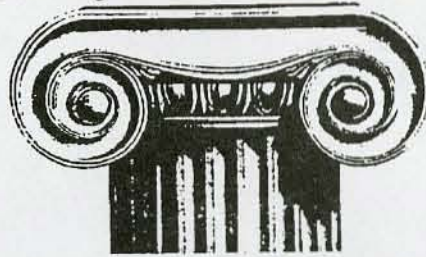
# 1994-1995 LANDMARK ANNALS

In January 1995, one of the goals set very early in Landmark's existence was partially realized, when the Historic Preservation Board announced that the Upper East Main Historic District had been designated as a zoned historic district, granting the board some authority to insure that the architectural and cultural integrity of that area is preserved. Appropriately, we have reprinted our walking tour brochure of that same district. In January, the new offices of Catron, Kilgore & Begley opened in the restored Garvin Building. Our February general membership meeting in Smiths Grove was one of the best attended ever, as we presented the results of our architectural survey of Northern Warren County.

Also in February, we were saddened when the James Hines House at 1103 Adams Street burned; it dated from 1840 and was one of the community's best examples of Greek Revival architecture. We were further disheartened when it was revealed that the cause was arson. Also in February, Governor Breton Jones came to Bowling Green to announce a \$765,000 ISTEA grant to restore our magnificent 1925 L&N Depot. In April, we once again toured Bowling Green's Alabaster City, Fairview Cemetery, with our sister organization, Riverview. Also in April, we held our bi-annual Flea Market at the L&N Depot with 20% of our proceeds going to

## LANDMARK ASSOCIATION

Bowling Green-Warren County



*"A future with a past"*

Operation PRIDE for the restoration of the depot itself.

In May, we completed Phase I of our rural church survey which included photographing Warren County's existing churches outside the city limits of Bowling Green. Phase II is

currently taking place as we have an intern from Western visiting each church and writing narrative descriptions of the exteriors as well as plot drawings showing the church in relation to other buildings and landscape features.

In May, we also received our new logo. We continue our ongoing projects—saving architectural salvage, publishing our newsletter, advising and referring people on historic preservation projects, and acting as a general advocate for preservation in the community. Thank you for helping make this an exciting year for the Landmark Association and for historic preservation in Bowling Green and Warren County



**FIRE DESTROYED THE JAMES HINES HOUSE AT 1103 ADAMS STREET IN FEBRUARY.**

# ACTIVITIES & EVENTS:



**President Jeffrey presents the Lamplighter Award to Jean Thomason.**

The Lamplighter Award will no doubt become a Landmark tradition. Jean Thomason placed a faulty wager on this piece at our bi-annual flea market in April. Thinking we would be able to sell this treasure, Jean challenged Mr. Jeffrey with a \$5 wager. Knowing the lamp could not be sold, Jeffrey accepted the challenge. Since the lamp did not sell, Mrs. Thomason has proffered the \$5, but Mr. Jeffrey has subsequently been served with legal papers prepared by a local attorney denying Mrs. Thomason's future responsibility for the lamp.

Congratulations are extended to the law firm of Catron, Kilgore & Begley for winning Landmark's Historic Preservation Award for their restoration of the Garvin Building, 918 State Street (the former Norman's Dress Shop)



## THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD

By Heather Tessler

The Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County is coordinating an architectural and historical survey of the county's rural churches. Entitled "Come to the Church in the Wildwood: Warren County's Rural Churches," the research/survey initiative is Landmark's Bicentennial Project. It will culminate when Warren County celebrates its 200th birthday in 1997 with an exhibit at the Kentucky Museum. The churches, located outside the Bowling Green city limits, are important gathering places for weekly worship and social events throughout the county. The Landmark Association believes the churches are significant physical structures. They are also sources of

local history and are indicative of the local value placed on religion.

The four-phase project began with the photographic documentation of the nearly 110 churches to be surveyed. A building survey is then taken noting the exterior physical features of the church structures and their plots. A historical survey of the congregations' development and local roots will also be completed. Finally, an exhibit will be presented at the Kentucky Museum in the summer of 1997 with an accompanying publication detailing the churches and their histories.



# THE BARTLETT WALTON HOUSE

By Margaret Sterling

The Bartlett Walton House, 416 East Twelfth, lies five blocks from Fountain Square, on the north-east side of Twelfth Street in a primarily residential district. The house is an excellent example of the Bungalow style, very popular in the United States during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Historians label the era from 1900 to 1925, as the Progressive era. It was a time when both major political parties took as their credos the correction of certain basic wrongs in the nation's economic and political life. Suddenly everything was new: the "New Freedom," the "New Nationalism," the new poetry, the new art, the new ethics, the new marriage. Part of the "New Theory" of aesthetics was a belief in simplicity. This image became part of the "new vision" of the ideal American home.

Inherent in this reform vision of the middle class house was the idea that the family home, as a retreat protected from the instability of a transient society and the competitiveness of the business world, could serve as the central stabilizing force for the American democratic society. Progressive housing crusaders, riding on the crest of a wave of national reforms and buoyed by their vision of the ideal middle class home and family, fastened on to the bungalow and the suburban development as the great hope of the future.

"There's a little side street at the edge of the town  
That sloped from the brow of the hill  
Where the shadows lie deep from the sun going down  
And the harsh city noises are still  
The white wings of peace seem to brood in the air  
Of this little side street that I know  
And Phyllis so fair is awaiting me there  
In our own little Bungalow."

(Representative California Homes, 1912, p.3.)

Generally, bungalows were modest one-story (or one-and-a-half stories) houses with wide, low spreading projecting roofs and wide eaves showing exposed rafter ends, gable windows or dormers, one or two porches, open timberwork, chimneys and fireplaces, and common natural materials.

The characteristic use of natural materials, intrinsic to the Bungalow style, is perhaps best illustrated in the Walton house by the use of split, red fieldstone for the foundation. The stone, readily found in the surrounding area, enhances the link between the dwelling and the land which

supports it, and works to situate this bungalow in a specific location and history. The rest of the house continues this adherence to natural materials with its wood frame, wood sheathing, and wood shingles. Similarly, the colors of the structure—red fieldstone, deep brown, and bright yellow—highlight its relationship to organic elements and further its claim to earthbound, simple utility.

Bungalows were intended to blend indoor and outdoor spaces as much as possible. The porch, which extends around one corner to French doors opening into the dining room allows for extension of the living space. This reflects the influence of the public health movement which advocated fresh-air and sunshine. The house also employs simple casings for doorways and windows.

Proponents cited that the simplicity of the overall design reduced construction costs, which was one reason the bungalow proliferated across the county. A Bungalow could be built for \$1,000 to \$3,000 as opposed to the Victorian house which cost anywhere from \$4,000 to \$7,000. Changes in the middle class house signaled new patterns in family life. The average number of children decreased to three and a half by 1900, and many middle-class families had only one or two. Housing studies also related the reduced

# THE BARTLETT WALTON HOUSE

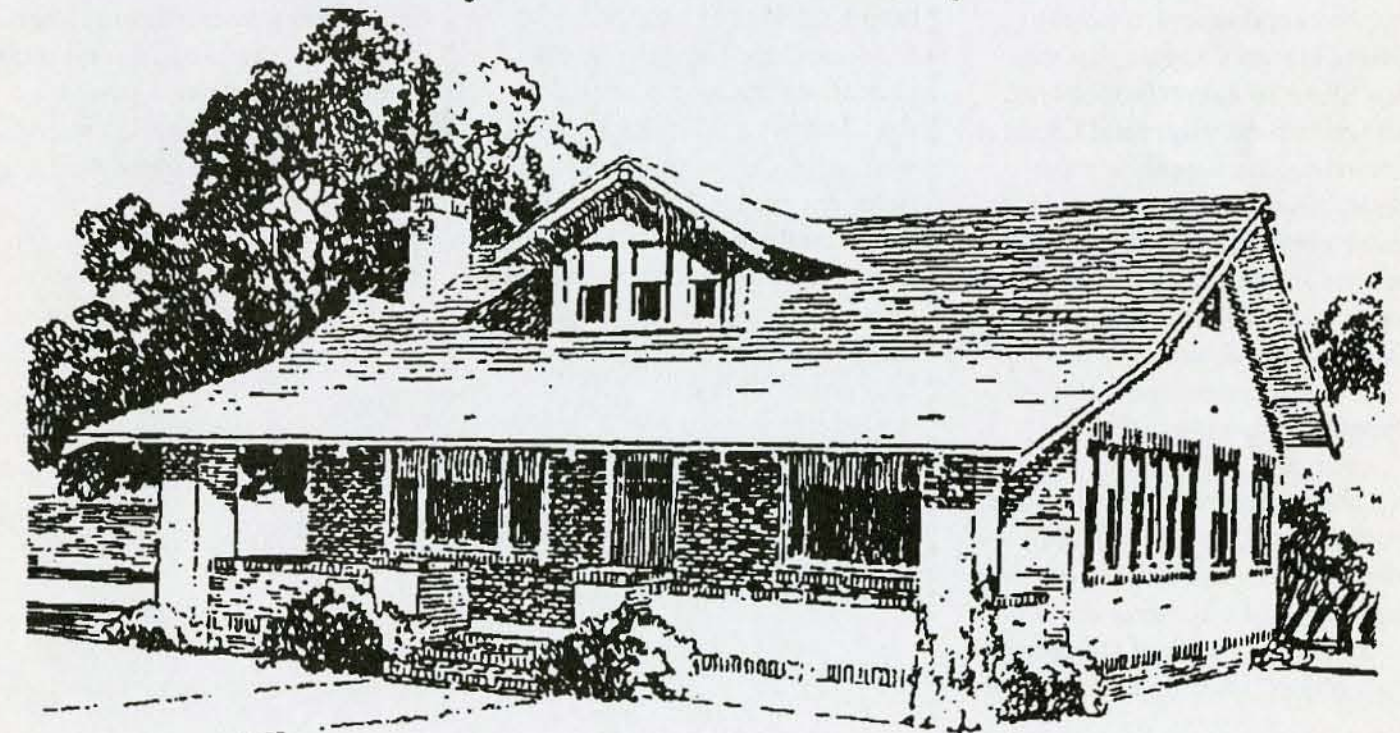
square footage to the decline in domestic production of goods. Even home economists declared that the modern housewife's principle role was that of consumer, not producer.

As with many houses built in the Bungalow style, the builder/architect of the Bartlett Walton house is unknown and the date of construction can only be estimated to be between 1922 and 1925, the first time it appeared on the Sanborn maps. By the start of the 1920's, Bowling Green was reacting to the popular and social influences of the county. The rise of the middle-class, the industrialization of previously rural communities such as Bowling Green, and the rising aesthetic for simplicity and organization that

characterized the "modern house-hold" is documented by the number of bungalow style residences found in substantial intact form. The downtown location makes this house not only distinctive in Bowling Green, but across the county. The growth of commercial downtown areas and the rise of the automobile lead to homeowners moving to developing suburbs. The Magnolia Street Historic District, one mile east of the central business district, shows a heavy concentration on the Bungalow style and was part of an early Bowling Green subdivision. Despite this movement, the Bartlett Walton house stands on an urban lot.

The house has been restored by the

current owners, Dr Camilla Collins and Dr. Jane Bramham. The Bowling Green Historic Preservation Board recently approved inclusion of the Walton Bungalow in the College Hill Historic District.





## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS:

### SHREWSBURY RECEIVES HERITAGE AWARD

The following is Bill McKenzie's presentation speech for this year's Heritage Award which was given to Ron Shrewsbury. Ron was unable to be at the meeting, so his award was given to him at the Chamber of Commerce's June Coffee Hour which was sponsored by Landmark. Ron received a much deserved standing ovation.

Our Heritage Award recipient has been involved with preservation on Fountain Square for many years. He came to this area to attend the Bowling Green Business University in the late 1950s. He doesn't claim to be a purist as far as preservation goes. But he knows what he likes and he likes downtown Bowling Green. He would agree that you don't have to know the difference between Romanesque and Classical Revival styles to appreciate the beautiful old architectural styles of our downtown buildings. And he believes in the economic benefits of a restored downtown and has worked hard to bring about both visual and economic improvements around Fountain Square.

His first connection with the Landmark Association came in 1980 when his firm was considering the demolition of a building on College Street in the process of relocating their offices. During the process of

the discussion with Landmark concerning the adaptive reuse of older buildings, he became convinced not to take down the building. He decided instead to restore not just one, but three adjoining buildings for use by the firm which was at that time Meany and Associates.

Our recipient and his firm embarked on this ambitious three—building restoration with enthusiasm and the result was a widely recognized successful project. These three buildings, with careful restoration, contribute substantially to the streetscape on that side of Fountain Square.

In addition to his interest and work on these buildings, our recipient has been a member and supporter of Landmark, the Capitol Theater, Downtown Business Association, the Chamber of Commerce and many other community organizations. For the last three years, he has served on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer of Landmark. He has recently been appointed by the Mayor to serve on the Historic Preservation Board.

It gives me a great pleasure to present this 1995 Heritage Award to Ron Shrewsbury.

### THOMASON IS ELECTED BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

At Landmark's annual meeting, the membership voted to add a section to Article IV, Section 1 of our bylaws. The addition reads: "The Board may grant Board member emeritus status to individuals who have exhibited outstanding service to the organization. Emeriti honorees will serve as ex-officio members of the Board." At the board's July meeting, Jean Thomason was nominated and elected as Landmark's first board member emeritus.

Jean, a successful realtor and long time supporter of historic preservation, is one of Landmark's founders and charter members. She has also served as president of the organization and on numerous committees. She has just completed a term on the Landmark Board and a term on Bowling Green's Historic Preservation Board. Few are more deserving of the honor.

## CALENDAR

### August 29

Landmark Planning Meeting for Board, 6:00 p.m., Mariah's

### September 9

"Bullets, Bivouacs and Ballyhoo: Camp Life in the Orphan Brigade," Kentucky Museum, William C. Davis

### September 10

"Boone in Visual Materials," 7:30 p.m., Kentucky Museum, Ray Buckberry

### September 11

"Boone: What a Man!" 7:30 p.m., Kentucky Museum, John Mack Faragher

### September 17

"Illustrating the Past: Kentucky Historic Interiors," Kentucky Museum, Marilyn Casto

### September 21

Fountain Square Evening, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

## News Notes

Copies of Landmark's most recent publication, *Riverview Savoring the Past*, are available at the Bowling Green Antique Mall, Barbara Stewart's Interiors, The Museum Store at Riverview and at the Landmark Offices at 912-1/2 State Street.

Watch for Landmark's booth during Fountain Square Evening, September 21. We will have some of our Rural Church Survey material on display

Landmark Association members will soon receive an invitation to the exhibit, *Illustrating the Past: Kentucky Historic Interiors*, a photographic display curated by Dr. Marilyn Casto of Western's Consumer and Family Science Department. The exhibit will feature the interiors of Kentucky house museums, including Riverview of Bowling Green. This photo is of Riverview in the 1940's.

The exhibit's opening reception on Sunday, September 17 will be sponsored by Landmark.





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## LANDMARK REPORT

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